

FROM: James S. Reinhard. M.D.
SUBJECT: Draft Comprehensive State Plan 2008-2014
DATE: October 31, 2007

The Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services has completed a draft of its Comprehensive State Plan 2008-2014. This plan builds on the work of the Department's transformation efforts and identifies future directions for Virginia's publicly funded behavioral health and intellectual disabilities services system. Additionally, the plan proposes specific actions for addressing critical issues and includes a summary of resources required to address identified system gaps or deficiencies.

The Executive Summary of this plan is attached for your information. A copy of the complete draft Plan is available at <http://www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov/OPD-default.htm> . If you would like a copy of the draft plan mailed to you, please contact Gail McClure at 804-786-6148. The public comment period for the Plan will extend through November 30, 2007.

The State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board and Department staff will conduct a videoconference public hearing on November 27, 2007 to receive comments on the draft Plan. The hearing will begin at 1:00 pm and will continue until all comments are received. The Department is in the process of identifying host sites around the state to assure broad participation in this public hearing. The exact locations of these sites with directions will be emailed to you as soon as they are available

Sign-up sheets will be available at each location on the day of the hearing for individuals who want to provide public comments. If possible, please bring a written copy of your presentation to leave with the Board and Department. If you need an interpreter or other accommodation, please contact Linda Grasewicz, Senior Planner, at (804) 786-0040 by November 16, 2007.

Please send any comments you might have on the draft Plan to Charline Davidson, Director, Office of Planning and Development at the Department's address by November 30, 2007. Comments also will be accepted by e-mail (charline.davidson@co.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov) or by facsimile at (804) 371-0092.

Thank you.